

Part B

A-16 Lead – Earth Cover

1. Program/Activity Name: Earth Cover. **Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics (MRLC) Consortium (USGS)**
2. What are the specific federal programs this data supports? **The MRLC Consortium includes the following federal organizations, which represent most of the land cover activity in the federal government. All are supporters of the Consortium and users of the satellite data and land cover derivatives.**

Department of the Interior

US Geological Survey: Geography, Water Resources and Biological Resources Disciplines.

Bureau of Land Management

National Park Service

US Department of Agriculture

US Forest Service: Forest Inventory and Analysis, Urban Forestry Group, Remote Sensing Applications Center

National Resources Conservation Service: Natural Resources Inventory

US Environmental Protection Agency

Office of Environmental Information

Office of Research and Development

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Coastal Change Analysis Program

NASA

Earth Science Applications Program

3. Uses of Data: How does your data benefit customers and support agency missions? **Four datasets are available to the MRLC Consortium Partners:**
 - a. **Landsat-5 satellite data for the conterminous US, circa 1992 \pm 2 years**
 - b. **National Land Cover Dataset (1992), derived from Landsat-5.**
 - c. **Landsat-7 satellite data for the entire US and Puerto Rico, circa 2001 \pm 2 years.**
 - d. **National Land Cover Database (2001), derived from Landsat-7 data.**

These 4 sources provide a consistent nationwide coverage of satellite data and derived land cover for a wide variety of federal, regional, and state level applications including mapping, modeling, management, and monitoring.

Specific applications are described at: <http://landcover.usgs.gov>

4. Charter/Plan: Do you have a current charter or plan for collection? If so - please describe (include how recently the charter/plan was implemented and whether it is in need of update). **The MRLC Consortium was created by a Memorandum of Understanding in 1994. Additional partners joined in 1996 and 1999. The current MRLC workplan was written in 2001 and is updated as needed.**
5. Metadata Status: Is metadata discoverable and served through the NSDI Clearinghouse? What percentage of this theme's data has metadata and is in a Clearinghouse node? **NLCD 1992 and all associated metadata are available at: <http://landcover.usgs.gov>**
6. Standards: What is the status of this theme's data, process, transfer, and classification standards? **NLCD 1992 uses the Anderson Land Cover Classification standard, and applicable data and process standards. In the absence of an accepted earth cover standard, NLCD 2001 uses a state-of-the-**

practice database structure that allows users to produce derivative land cover classifications on demand.

7. Progress: List FY 2001/2002 activities/progress to date (quantify where possible). **90% of the Landsat-7 data have been acquired and are available on line. 4 of the 66 mapping zones have been completed.**
8. Policy: Do you have a formal agency policy in place for full and open access or data sharing? Are you able to fulfill this policy and provide public access with your current agency financial resources as allocated or are you in pursuit of collaborative federal partnerships to support data access? **All of the datasets are available to public access.**
9. Are there areas or issues regarding lead responsibilities for spatial data themes that require attention, or lessons-learned that you would like to share with others? Please describe. **Not at this time.**